

of mechanical means of increasing the circulation to the extremities. The use of intravenous injections of 2 per cent sodium chloride solution 300 cc., three times a week, is strongly advocated. Intermittent venous occlusion, suction and pressure machines and sympathectomy are mentioned only to condemn their use. Complete rest in bed, abstinence from smoking, preservation of natural warmth, and scrupulous care to the extremity comprises the main treatment for occlusive vascular disorders. The author has rightly emphasized the importance of these conservative measures. Amputation of the leg, particularly in patients with Thromboangiitis Obliterans, is indicated only when there has been destruction of the weight-bearing portion of the foot.

The remainder of the book is devoted to considerations of various vascular disorders, vasospastic, congenital, and traumatic. The outlines are too short to be of value and there are some aspects which are not considered. For instance, in the discussion of venous thrombosis no mention is made of deep venous thrombosis of the calf, phlebothrombosis. Again, in the treatment of aneurysms, proximal ligation of the artery or extirpation of the sac is advocated. No mention is made of intrasaccular obliteration with preservation of the collateral vessels.

This book is valuable as an outline of peripheral vascular diseases chiefly in the diagnosis and conservative management of patients with obliterative arterial disorders.

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ROENTGEN INTERPRETATION. By George W. Holmes, M.D., Board of Consultation, the Massachusetts General Hospital and Clinical Professor of Roentgenology Emeritus, Harvard Medical School, and Laurence L. Robbins, M.D., Radiologist-in-chief to the Massachusetts General Hospital and Associate in Radiology, Harvard Medical School. Seventh edition, thoroughly revised, published 1947. Octavo, 398 pages, with 266 illustrations. Fabrikoid, Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia. Price \$7.00.

This familiar text reappears in slightly modernized dress and with a new co-author. In previous editions the cuts were reproduced from positive prints and were therefore the reverse of films as handled by the physician or resident. A gradual change is being made to negative illustrations and the new illustrations in this edition are of such type. This results in a little confusion, but is undoubtedly a step in the right direction. In subsequent editions, it is hoped complete revision to negative prints will take place.

Much of the text is unchanged, and has been reviewed in previous issues of this journal. The manual can be recommended to all residents in hospitals, to many senior students, and to many practitioners. We believe it is of a special use for general practitioners in smaller communities who do some of their own roentgenography.

It is to be doubted if extensive bibliographies at the end of each section are essential for an elementary text of this type. The continued reproduction of Elsberg and Dyke's chart of alleged normal interpedicular distances is of questionable use, in view of published results obtained with this chart. On page 244 appears a sentence "The films of most adult lungs

show a certain amount of thickening of the bronchial markings as a result of previous infection. . . ." We believe the time has come for reliable texts to be a little more precise in the use of the terminal "bronchial" markings. Undoubtedly the authors mean bronchovascular or vascular markings. It is well known that the bronchi contribute only a small amount to the shadows seen in the lungs proper under normal circumstances.

Diagnostic roentgenography now encompasses such a wide field that the authors must be congratulated on their continued ability to compress so much information into so small a space.

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DISEASES OF THE NERVOUS SYSTEM. By F. M. R. Walshe, M.D., D.Sc. F.R.C.P. (Long.), F.R.S., D.Sc. (Hon.), Nat. Univ. Ireland. Fifth Edition. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore. Copyright 1947. Price \$4.50.

A small, compact textbook of clinical neurology which presents the underlying anatomical and clinical syndromes in a clear and concise manner.

The volume is designed primarily to present to medical students a complex subject in a simplified form. It is an excellent book for the use of medical students or for those individuals who wish a source of ready reference.

Although the anatomical and clinical diagnostic portions of the volume are excellent, the portions dealing with special diagnostic procedures and treatment particularly those pertaining to the surgical aspects of certain neurological lesions are at times incomplete. The chapter dealing with sciatic and brachial neuritis makes no mention of pantopaque as used for spinal myelography, and in the portion treating brachial neuralgia the possibility of a protrusion of the intervertebral disc in the cervical region as an etiological factor is not mentioned. The chapter on arterial aneurysms of the circle of Willis with subarachnoid hemorrhage leaves one with the impression that this lesion is followed by a complete recovery in a high percentage of cases which is contrary to the present accepted opinion. In the chapter dealing with hypertension there is very little emphasis placed on proper examination and evaluation of the funduscopic findings, which should be presented even though this is a book primarily dealing with neurology. Here again from the standpoint of treatment the possibility of sympathectomy as a therapeutic measure is not mentioned.

In spite of these minor therapeutic omissions the author has been highly successful in condensing a vast amount of material and information into one small volume which presents the essential, fundamental principles of neurology in a manner which can be highly recommended to those beginning a study of neurology.

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A HANDBOOK ON DISEASES OF CHILDREN. Including Dietetics & the Common Fevers. By Bruce Williamson, M.D., Edin., F.R.C.P. London. Fifth Edition. 1947. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore. Price \$4.50.

This handbook contains both errors of commission and errors of omission. It is not up to date. It cannot be recommended.